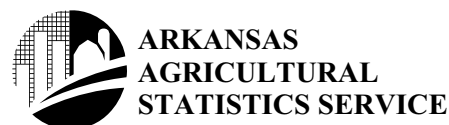


ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 4 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

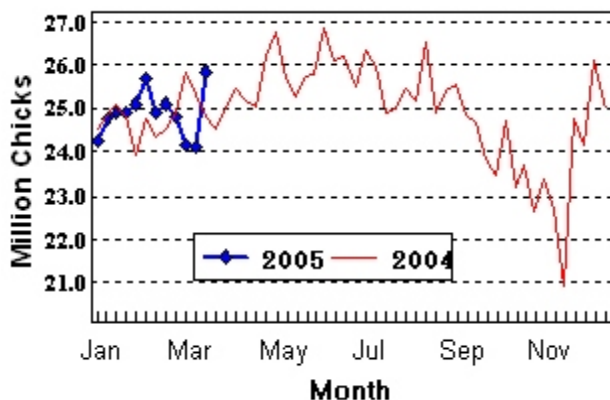
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 25.8 million during the week ending March 19, 2005. Placements were up 4 percent from the comparable week in 2004, and up 7 percent from the revised previous week, and included 2.6 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through March 19, 2005 were 298.6 million, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 26.4 million, up 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 1 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.8 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 84.4 percent.

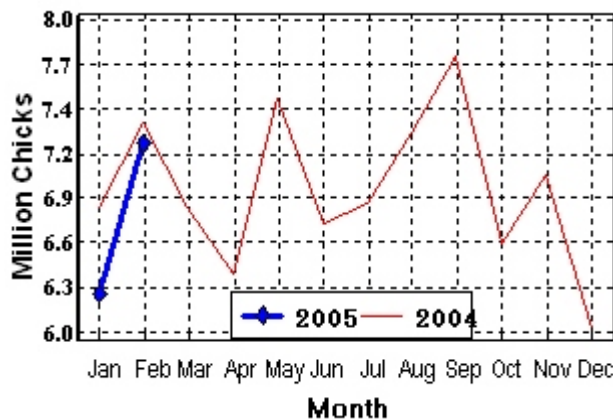
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 30.7 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending March 19, 2005, down 3 percent from the same period last year, and down 1 percent from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 7.2 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2005, down 2 percent from February 2004.

ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS
BY WEEK, 2004- 2005



U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED
FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS

Week Ending	Year		% Change
	2004	2005	
	1,000		
Feb. 12	24,386	24,929	102
Feb. 19	24,508	25,110	102
Feb. 26	24,911	24,831	100
Mar. 5	25,837	24,187	94
Mar. 12	25,314	24,126	95
Mar. 19	24,832	25,842	104

U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED

Month	Year		% Change
	2003-2004	2004-2005	
	1,000		
Sep.	6,654	7,758	117
Oct.	6,312	6,587	104
Nov.	6,946	7,008	101
Dec.	6,978	6,075	87
Jan.	6,811	6,289	92
Feb.	7,340	7,205	98

BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2005

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	26-Feb	05-Mar	12-Mar	19-Mar		12-Feb	19-Feb	26-Feb	05-Mar	12-Mar	19-Mar	
Alabama	30,476 *	30,331	30,074	29,970	101	21,630	21,582	21,639	21,620	21,525	21,507	97
ARKANSAS	31,285 *	31,198	30,867	30,657	97	24,929	25,110	24,831	24,187	24,126 *	25,842	104
Delaware	3,929	3,955	3,906	4,071	113	5,314	5,039	6,723	5,948	6,085	5,819	108
Florida	1,357	1,358	1,359	1,358	101	1,500	1,540	1,437	1,503	1,305	1,483	91
Georgia	33,611	33,030	33,375	33,381	104	26,377	26,777	27,162	27,800 *	27,155	27,427	105
Kentucky	7,298 *	7,265	7,049 *	6,735	102	6,305	6,368	6,286	5,679	6,485 *	6,131	109
Louisiana	4,043	4,044	4,075 *	4,135	111	3,830	3,814	3,746	3,581	4,101 *	3,514	89
Maryland	8,931	8,972	8,977	8,978	101	4,745	5,697	4,214	5,122	4,921	4,899	96
Mississippi	19,277	19,314	19,465	19,617	103	18,184	17,890	17,963	17,817	17,544	17,492	107
N. Carolina	18,549 *	18,870	18,682	18,818	98	14,668	14,893	14,556	15,140	14,881	15,097	103
Oklahoma	6,426	6,386	6,508 *	6,285	96	5,258	5,065	5,560	6,359	5,452	5,214	94
Pennsylvania	3,899 *	4,036 *	4,286 *	4,073	101	2,878	3,104	3,146 *	3,108 *	3,078 *	2,813	101
S. Carolina	5,279	5,281	5,283	5,247	142	4,722	4,560	4,449	3,957	4,633	4,277	104
Texas	15,240	15,155	15,119	15,094	100	12,814	12,768	12,714	12,739	12,897	12,897	104
Virginia	6,528	6,525	6,554	6,748	100	5,385	5,220	5,372	4,447	4,997	5,401	95
CA,MO,TN,WV	17,909	18,414	17,881 *	17,660	99	16,965	16,405 *	17,108	17,270	17,594 *	16,202	106
Total 2005	214,037 *	214,134 *	213,460 *	212,827		175,504	175,832 *	176,906 *	176,277 *	176,779 *	176,015	
Total 2004	210,864	210,313	210,601	210,144		167,265	167,390	168,319	169,208	170,698	171,783	
%Prev. Year	102	102	101	101		105	105	105	104	104	102	
Approximate Marketing Date 2005.....						02-Apr	09-Apr	16-Apr	23-Apr	30-Apr	07-May	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 213 million eggs during the week ending March 19, 2005. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 176 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 19, 2005. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through March 19, 2005 were 1.92 billion, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.